

LAGOS.

returned for 1877, which is due to the fact that a severe epidemic of small-pox raged at the early part of the year, followed up by the most unhealthy season for years previous in the recollection of some of the old native inhabitants of the place.

98. The principal diseases treated were those classed under the following heads, viz., small-pox, fevers, cutaneous, digestive, surgical, and Guinea worm.

99. Two hundred and one cases of small-pox were treated during the year, 74 of which proved fatal. In 1877 there were 41 cases of small-pox, of which 16 ended fatally.

100. The following comparative statement affords interesting statistics which speak for themselves of the success with which vaccination is worked under the able management of the Colonial Surgeon:—

Year.	Total Number vaccinated.	Unsuccessful.	Successful.
1872 -	1,587	13	1,574
1873 -	533	8	525
1874 -	3,625	73	3,552
1875 -	14,157	809	13,348
1876 -	12,633	1,293	11,340
1877 -	30,630	2,436	28,194
1878 -	30,214	1,107	29,107
Total -	93,379	5,739	87,640

101. The cost of the medical department for the year has been 3,117*l.* 19*s.* 9*d.*, against which the hospital receipts under the head of "Reimbursements in Aid," have been 520*l.* 13*s.* 4*d.*

102. There is no lunatic asylum nor charitable institution in the Settlement. A room in the gaol is made use of when required for female lunatics, and similar accommodation is provided for male lunatics in the debtors' prison.

103. Like arrangements are made, when necessary, for paupers.

104. The cost connected with the food and clothing of such persons is borne by the Government.

I have, &c.

(Signed) ALFRED MOLONEY,
Acting Administrator.

His Excellency Lieut.-Governor Lees, C.M.G.,
&c. &c. &c.

ST. HELENA.

ST. HELENA.

No. 17.

Governor JANISCH, C.M.G., to the Right Hon. Sir MICHAEL
HICKS BEACH, Bart.

SIR,

St. Helena, January 29, 1879.

I HAVE the honour to forward the Blue Book for the year 1878 with the following brief observations upon the returns contained therein.

Revenue.

2. The returns of revenue have been favourable, amounting to 14,197*l.* 14*s.* 7*d.*, being an increase on the last year of 1,416*l.* 10*s.* 1*d.*, and an excess of 1,545*l.* 14*s.* 7*d.* over the estimate for the year. The increase is caused chiefly by additional receipts for wharfage in the Customs Department.

Expenditure.

3. The expenditure amounts to 12,814*l.* 19*s.* 5½*d.*, being an excess over the estimate of 853*l.* 16*s.* 11½*d.*, and if to this be added the amount (about 600*l.*) paid to pensioners resident at the Cape of Good Hope during 1878 (of which no accounts have been received), the actual excess would amount to about 1,450*l.*

4. This excess over the estimate arises from a special expenditure of 1,473*l.* 17*s.* 3*d.* in repairing damages caused by a heavy flood which occurred in April 1878.

5. The flood resembled in its magnitude one that is described in the records as occurring in June 1756, and certainly exceeded any other flood that has happened in the interval.

6. The private losses occasioned by it amounted probably to about 3,000*l.*, but confined chiefly to five or six persons engaged in trade whose warehouses were situated near the point where the waters broke away from their channel in consequence of the culvert being filled and choked by the enormous masses of rock, &c. brought down by the torrent.

7. A loss to a similar amount will fall upon the Government in clearing the culvert and repairing the damages to roads and water-works, of which 1,474*l.* 17*s.* 3*d.* has been expended to the end of 1878.

8. It is this expenditure which has caused an excess over the estimate, but happily owing to the increase of revenue the unex-

ST. HELENA. pected charge has been provided for without serious inconvenience although its occurrence has reduced the net surplus of revenue from 2,200*l.* to about 800*l.*

Public Debt.

9. The amount under this head has been further lessened by the payment of the annual instalment of 750*l.* off the debentures, which are now reduced to 12,250*l.*, and which form the total debt of the Colony.

Council.

10. Under Her Majesty's Warrant of 8th July 1878, the Executive Council has been increased by the addition to it of the Right Reverend the Lord Bishop, and of Mr. George Moss, the Sheriff of the Island.

Pensions.

11. This list amounts to 2,984*l.* 16*s.* 10*d.*, and has been decreased in the year by the deaths of Mr. Stephen Pritchard 50*l.* per annum, Henry Holland 18*l.* 5*s.*, and Shaik Adam 19*l.* 2*s.* 2*d.*, and increased by the additions of pensions to Thomas Carter, policeman, 34*l.* 4*s.* 4½*d.*, and John Smith, policeman, 26*l.* 15*s.* 4*d.*

Trade.

12. The imports amount to 60,604*l.* against 70,025*l.*, and the exports to 12,653*l.* against 2,228*l.* in 1877.

13. In the exports for 1878 is included 5,800*l.* for whale oil taken in 1877 but not exported until the following year.

14. The growth and preparation of fibre for export is proceeding satisfactorily. The machinery, which in 1877 consisted of seven machines worked by one engine, has been increased to 16 machines worked by two engines. The alteration caused a suspension in the works during the first half of the year, and only 100 bales have been actually shipped as against 243 in 1877, but 400 bales have been prepared ready for shipment, and at the present rate of working it is anticipated that 1,500 bales weighing 400 lbs. each will be prepared in the present year.

15. The shipping calling at this port for supplies amounted to 664 in 1877 and 669 in the year 1878, of the following nationalities:—

British	-	-	418	German	-	-	21
American	-	-	84	Italian	-	-	26
Austrian	-	-	1	Norwegian	-	-	16
Dutch	-	-	38	Portuguese	-	-	2
Danish	-	-	2	Spanish	-	-	2
French	-	-	39	Swedish	-	-	20

Or otherwise classified:	as vessels of war	-	10		
"	"	steamers	-	46	
"	"	merchant ships	-	564	
"	"	whalers	-	49	
		Total	-	669	

ST. HELENA.

Criminal Statistics.

16. I am glad to say that these returns continue to show the absence of serious crime. The only case in the Supreme Court was one tried in January last for embezzlement committed in the preceding year. During the course of 1878 there has not been a single case of an indictable offence, nor a lawsuit of any kind amongst the inhabitants, and the last four Quarter Sessions of the Supreme Court have been all of them maiden sessions.

17. The cases in the Police Court have been as usual chiefly cases connected with seamen from the passing shipping, and disorderly women who associate with them, the total number being 268 or 90 less than the preceding year.

Hospitals and Asylums.

18. The admissions to the Civil Hospital were 137 or 44 less than in 1877.

19. The number of lunatics in the asylum remained the same as last year, five males and two females.

20. The year has been generally healthy throughout the Island the total deaths amongst the inhabitants was 69, of which 26 were infants, and 18 aged persons from 70 to over 90 years of age.

I have, &c.

(Signed) HUDN. R. JANISCH.

The Right Hon.

Sir M. E. Hicks Beach, Bart.,

&c. &c. &c.